



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **BLM Office To Have Limited Access During Renovations**

CARLSBAD – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Carlsbad Field Office will have disrupted public access throughout April.

The office will be undergoing renovations, starting the first week of April, to accommodate the new positions being added to the workforce as a result of the Energy Act that was passed last year. The office is targeted to have 23 new positions, 15 of which are already on board.

The new positions will have a strong emphasis on environmental work, such as cleanup and compliance of energy related leases, as well as streamlining BLM energy permit processes.

In addition, the redesign will create an interagency space, which will host both Fish and Wildlife and Bureau of Reclamation employees, along with BLM staff.

While the office is being remodeled to accommodate new desks, phone lines and computer drops, it will not be in full service. However, the front desk will be open for walk-in customers, and to accommodate caliche sales, maps sales and contract archaeologists.

Employees will continue working during the month. Oil and gas, range and other permits will still be processed. No delays are anticipated. During periods where phone access is limited, the public can contact the office via the main number at 505.234.5972.

“The new positions in our office should help streamline our energy work, ultimately allowing us to meet public needs more efficiently,” said Field Office Manager Tony Herrell. “In addition, we will have more people to support the environmental cleanup and compliance parts of energy development.” Herrell said, “We do not anticipate any slow down in processing Oil and Gas applications and will be setting up temporary workstations to keep up with high priority demand workloads.”

Thank you for your patience and understanding. For more information please contact Link Lacewell at 505.234.5904 or Rebecca Hunt at 505.234.5965.